

Azurite Blue [pl. ix] as against Smalt Blue [same pl.] in *C. c. caudata*), this also more bled through the upper tail-coverts and less distinctly zoned. There is also a fairly well-marked and convincing size difference, East African coastal birds having the flattened wing (of 10 ♂♀) 159–166 (170) (163.7), in contrast to 166–177 (171.5) mm. in 10 ♂♀ from Angola and northern South-West Africa.

The darker, more olive, less buffy, brown mantle, scapulars and tertials and smaller size seem to be the most reliable criteria of all those listed above in support of the discreteness of *C. c. suahelica*, the range of which appears to be from the coast of Kenya, south through eastern Tanzania to northern Moçambique, southern Malawi (mainly from Chiromo, on the lower Shirè River, where intergrading with *C. c. caudata*), and perhaps as far south on the coast as the Save River in southern Moçambique. Some eastern Zambian specimens (mainly from about Fort Jameson) show a marked shift towards *C. c. suahelica* in having a darker brown dorsal facies, though others from the same locality are typical of *C. c. caudata*. From Inhambane southwards the populations are certainly similar in dorsal coloration to *C. c. caudata*, though many birds are small in size as in *C. c. suahelica*, with the wings 166 mm. and below. The small proportions of many southern Moçambique examples of *C. c. caudata* seem to have no taxonomic significance, however, as many examples with wings in excess of 170 mm. are available from this same region, the dates of which are suggestive that they were not wintering birds of the interior plateau populations in the first instance. It seems the wing-length variable in these littoral populations has a wider spectrum than in those from more western aspects of the range. As the majority of southern Moçambique littoral birds is small sized, it seems that selection is favouring the small sized phenotype in this region, as it likewise does in the populations embraced in *C. c. suahelica*, which is the race of the humid low-lying coastlands of East Africa.

The range of *C. c. caudata* may be redefined as South-West Africa, the northern Cape Province, Bechuanaland, Rhodesia, the Transvaal, northern Orange Free State, Moçambique south of *C. c. suahelica*, Swaziland, Zululand, and Natal (occasional), northwards to Angola, the southern Congo, Zambia, western Malawi, western Tanzania, Uganda, Kenya back from the coast and south of the range of *C. c. lorti*, and south-western Somalia.

For the loan of recently collected specimens from Angola—topotypes of *C. c. caudata*—I am deeply grateful to Dr. A. A. da Rosa Pinto, Ornithologist of the Instituto de Investigação Científica de Angola, at Sá da Bandeira, Huila, Angola. I must also thank Mr. T. E. Irwin for his efforts in bringing the Kilwa, Tanzania, series of *C. c. suahelica* together.

## A new name for *Geocichla princei graueri* Sassi

by B. P. HALL

Received 24th March, 1966

Prigogine (1965) has shown that *Geocichla princei graueri* Sassi should be regarded as a valid subspecies of *Geocichla camaronensis*.

Many authors submerge *Geocichla* in *Turdus*. When this is done *graueri*

Sassi 1914 is pre-occupied by *Turdus graueri* Neumann 1908 (now *Turdus pelios graueri*).

Sassi's bird therefore requires a new name and I propose:—

*Turdus camaronensis prigoginei* nom. nov.

for *Geocichla princei graueri* Sassi 1914, Anz. Akad. Wien, 28: 309—  
Moera, west of Semliki, Belgian Congo.

Reference:

Prigogine, A. 1965 *Rev. Zool. Bot. Afr.* 71: 230–235.

## Symmetrical albinism in a Skylark

by JOHN H. BARRETT

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Harrison's contribution (1966) under this heading prompted me to refer to my notes and I find that on 28th December, 1946, at Spurn Point, E. Yorkshire, one of a party of about 15 Skylarks, *Alauda arvensis*, had all the primaries in both wings and the two outer tail feathers on both sides white, giving a precisely symmetrical pattern.

Furthermore I recall that, against all the protestations of the late Ralph Chislett, an army officer of some standing so insisted that this bird was a White-winged Lark that Chislett had to be persuaded at a later meeting that he really ought to resume recognition of the gallant gentleman.

Reference:

Harrison, James M. 1966. A case of symmetrical albinism in a Skylark. *Bull. B.O.C.* 86: 11–15.

## A new race of the flycatcher *Batis molitor* from Angola

by WALTER J. LAWSON

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A revision of the species of the genus *Batis* Boie is at present in an advanced stage of preparation, and not wishing to include the formal descriptions of new subspecies in this work, I here describe a new subspecies of *Batis molitor* (Hahn & Küster); Baviaan's River, eastern Cape Province.

*Batis molitor pintoii* subsp. nov.

*Type*: ♂ adult, from Fazenda do Cuito, (Moco), Angola, altitude 1620 m., in *Brachystegia* veld, collected by Dr. A. A. da Rosa Pinto on the 19th June, 1964. In the collection of the Instituto de Investigacao Cientifica de Angola, Sá da Bandeira, Angola, Reg. No. 8209.

*Diagnosis*: Male: Head-top and mantle dark grey, only slightly darker than in the nominate race but considerably darker than in *B. m. palliditergum* Clancey: Sand River, east of Newington, eastern Transvaal and *B. m. puella* Reichenow: Bussisi, southern shore of Lake Nyanza. The head-top is also suffused with metallic blue-black, somewhat greener in hue than in *B. m. molitor*, and chest band also greener, not blue-black as in *B. m. molitor*, *B. m. palliditergum* and *B. m. puella*. Also averages somewhat larger in size of wing and tail than these three subspecies.